

Message Text

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ORIGIN SY-04

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DRAFTED BY A/SY/FO:GPVARROS:JP

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A/SY - VHDIKEOS

A/SY - KWKNAUF

ARA/MGT - KACKERMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 005248

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ASEC, APER

SUBJECT: RSO POSITION AT RIO DE JANEIRO

PANAMA FOR RSS

REF: BRASILIA 0077

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES POST'S ASSESSMENT IN REFTEL ON NEED FOR RESIDENT RSO IN RIO. AFTER DETAILED CONSIDERATION OF THE EMBASSY'S RATIONALE FOR ABOLISHING POSITION, DEPARTMENT HAS DECIDED RETENTION OF THE POSITION IN RIO WILL PERMIT MUCH NEEDED FLEXIBILITY OF THIS RSO FOR USE BOTH IN BRAZIL AND IN OTHER AREAS OF LATIN AMERICA, TO GIVE US AN IMMEDIATE REACTION CAPABILITY FOR UNPREDICTABLE TERRORIST ACTIONS AND FOR SOLVING OTHER PROBLEMS IN SECURITY COVERAGE.

2. ASIDE FROM THE ROUTINE WORK THIS RSO WILL CONTINUE TO PERFORM AT RIO AND SAO PAULO, ADDITIONAL EMPHASIS IS BEING
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PLACED ON PROTECTION OF PERSONNEL, OFFICIAL INSTALLATIONS

AND RESIDENCES OF ALL EMPLOYEES. WHILE THE KIDNAPPING THREAT SITUATION HAS DIMINISHED TO A GREAT DEGREE IN RIO DURING THE PAST 2 TO 3 YEARS, INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM HAS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY ELSEWHERE IN LATIN AMERICA. DEPART-

MENT THEREFORE BELIEVES THAT RIO RSO POSITION SHOULD BE MAINTAINED FOR THE PRESENT, SUBJECT TO PERIODIC REVIEW.

3. SY HAS SELECTED A REPLACEMENT FOR COMBS. THE PROPOSED RSO IS CURRENTLY UNDERGOING HIS FINAL PHASE OF TRAINING IN AN SY COURSE. HE HAD EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN SECURITY WORK PRIOR TO JOINING SY LAST JANUARY AND HAS A VERY GOOD (FSI TESTED) LANGUAGE CAPABILITY IN SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE. SY NOW ESTIMATES HIS ARRIVAL IN RIO DURING MARCH 1975. KISSINGER

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